



August 12, 2013

COCA Updates are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions occur when there is emergency information or CDC event-specific updates to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **August 26**.

This issue contains information from **July 29 – August 12, 2013** and guidance documents relevant to current public health events. For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)
[CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook](#)
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Topics and Highlights

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Updated Guidance for the Evaluation of Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)

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[Food, Drug and Device Safety](#) *Multistate Outbreak of Cyclosporiasis*

COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Call/Webinar:

Improving the Health of Children and Adults through Vaccines: Updates and Recommendations for Clinicians

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)

Dial In Number: 888-233-9077

Passcode: 382654

Webinar: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW2617244&p=3823654&t=c>

Vaccines prevent children and adults from potentially harmful or deadly diseases. To promote health and prevent disease, CDC publishes written recommendations for vaccinating children and adults. These recommendations are based on information from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). It is important for pediatric and adult providers to stay up to date on the most recent ACIP recommendations. During this webinar, a CDC subject matter expert will address recent vaccine recommendations along with available immunization resources.

CE = Continuing Education

http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo_081313.asp

Recent COCA Call/Webinar:

Understanding the Public's Response to a Possible Scenario Involving Inhalation Anthrax

Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2013

In planning an effective response to a bioterrorism incident, it is critical to understand and anticipate the public's viewpoint, their perceptions of the threat and their intended behaviors. This includes their likelihood of taking recommended precautions and their likelihood of taking matters into their own hands. In particular, it is important to understand the perspective of racial/ethnic minority groups given that these communities may be disproportionately affected in a real attack. During this webinar, subject matter experts discussed results from public opinion polls conducted between December 2012 to January 2013, which assessed how people would respond to a possible release of anthrax spores in an unidentified area.

CE = Continuing Education
http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo_072313.asp

Archived COCA Conference Calls are available at: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/callinfo.asp>
Free continuing education (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) is available for most calls.

CDC News and Announcements

CDC Science Clips: Volume 5, Issue: 30 – (CDC)

Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.

<http://www.cdc.gov/phlic/sciclips/issues/>

Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)

Find resources for All Hazards and Specific Hazards preparedness.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp>

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)

Find online and in-person training centers and resources at

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp>

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

NEW: Public Health Matters Blog: EvacuKids – August 7 (CDC)

EvacuKids is tailored to the specific needs of the children, those whose families have transportation out of the city and those without it. EvacuKids is a fantastic opportunity to make a meaningful, sustainable impact on a generation that will someday lead New Orleans in a positive direction.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/08/evacukids/>

Prevent and Treat Other Illnesses and Injuries After a Hurricane or Flood: Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning – (CDC)

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/returnhome.asp>

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp>

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by the CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html>

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- [Heat Illness and Deaths — New York City, 2000–2011](#)
- [Fatal West Nile Virus Infection After Probable Transfusion-Associated Transmission — Colorado, 2012](#)
- [CDC Grand Rounds: Public Health Approaches to Reducing U.S. Infant Mortality](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)

Update: CDC Health Alert Network (HAN) Update: Notice to Healthcare Providers and Public Health Officials: Updated Guidance for the Evaluation of Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – August 12 (CDC)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to work closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other partners to better understand the public health risks posed by Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV).

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00352.asp>

Update: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) – August 8 (CDC)

A novel coronavirus called “Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus” (MERS-CoV) was identified in 2012 as the cause of respiratory illness in people. Investigations are being done to figure out the source of MERS-CoV and how it spreads.

<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/index.html>

Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus

Update: Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus – August 7 (CDC)

Human infections with a new avian influenza A (H7N9) virus continue to be reported in China. The virus has been detected in poultry in China as well. While mild illness in human cases has been seen, most patients have had severe respiratory illness and some people have died. No cases of H7N9 outside of China have been reported. The new H7N9 virus has not been detected in people or birds in the United States.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm>

Seasonal Influenza

Weekly Flu View – August 2 (CDC)

This is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Planning and Preparedness: Health Professionals and Seasonal Flu – (HHS)

Health care providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist health care providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.

<http://www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html>

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – August 9 (US Department of State)

Travel Warnings are issued when long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable lead the State Department to recommend that Americans avoid or consider the risk of travel to that country. A Travel Warning is also issued when the U.S. Government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of its staff.

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html

Food, Drug and Device Safety

NEW: Multistate Outbreak of Cyclosporiasis – August 12 (CDC)

On June 28, 2013, CDC was notified of 2 laboratory-confirmed cases of *Cyclospora* infection in Iowa residents who had become ill in June and did not have a history of international travel during the 14 days before the onset of illness. Since that date, CDC has been collaborating with public health officials in multiple states and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to investigate an outbreak of cyclosporiasis.

<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/outbreaks/investigation-2013.html>

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)

Your FDA gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm>

FoodSafety.gov Reports FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting & Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

For recalls and alerts by both FDA and USDA, or to report a problem or make inquiries.

<http://www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html>

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The Emergency Risk Communication Branch (ERCB) Clinician Communication Team works to enhance partners' knowledge of emerging threats and their effects on human populations, and to provide relevant, timely information to help manage these threats by developing and maintaining mechanisms for communication. The Clinician Communication Team is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information on this and other clinical issues or to send your feedback please contact us at coca@cdc.gov

ERCB offers a variety of free tools and resources to help you enhance your knowledge of emergency preparedness and response:

[CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook page](#) - real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners on Facebook.

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for health care providers.

[Subscribe the COCA RSS Feed](#) - get notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers.

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication \(CERC\) Training](#) - course on the fundamentals of CDC's Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication.

[Selective National Assessment Profiles \(SNAPS\)](#) - snapshots of state population data and local-level community profile information.

[Risk Communicator](#) –quarterly online newsletter providing guidance for emergency risk communication strategy.



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